

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (original): A gaming device comprising:

an interactive game, wherein for each play of said interactive game, a predetermined game outcome which is either a winning game outcome or a losing game outcome is obtained from a finite pool of game outcomes;

a plurality of playing symbols in the interactive game, wherein for each interactive game, a set of first playing symbols is formed from a plurality of said symbols and a set of second playing symbols is formed from a plurality of said symbols, wherein each of said second playing symbols is associated with a respective one of said first playing symbols;

at least one predetermined designation associated with said first playing symbols;

a display device adapted to display the interactive game; and

a processor operable with said display device to control the play of the interactive game by:

(a) displaying the set of first playing symbols to a player;

(b) enabling the player to designate a subset of the displayed first playing symbols to replace;

(c) if the player's designation is consistent with the predetermined designation associated with said first playing symbols:

(i) displaying the second playing symbol associated with at least one of the first playing symbols, and

(ii) providing said predetermined game outcome to the player, and

(d) if the player's designation is inconsistent with the predetermined designation associated with said first playing symbols:

- (i) displaying a modification of the player's designated subset of the first playing symbols, wherein independent of the player's designation, said modification causes the displayed playing symbols to correspond to the predetermined game outcome, and
- (ii) providing said predetermined game outcome to the player.

Claim 2 (original): The gaming device of Claim 1, wherein the displayed playing symbols which correspond to the predetermined game outcome includes at least one of the second playing symbols associated with at least one of the first playing symbols.

Claim 3 (original): The gaming device of Claim 1, wherein said displayed modification includes a sequence of images indicative of alternative playing symbols.

Claim 4 (original): The gaming device of Claim 1, wherein said displayed modification includes a morphing display in which said one of the first symbols is transformed into the second symbol associated with said first symbol.

Claim 5 (original): The gaming device of Claim 1, wherein said displayed modification includes an animation sequence of images.

Claim 6 (original): The gaming device of Claim 1, wherein each of the first playing symbols represents a respective first playing card and each of the second playing symbols represents a respective second playing card.

Claim 7 (original): The gaming device of Claim 1, wherein each of the first playing symbols represents a respective first reel symbol and each of the second playing symbols represents a respective second reel symbol.

Claim 8 (original): The gaming device of Claim 1, wherein the subset of the displayed first symbols includes zero, one or a plurality of said first symbols to replace.

Claim 9 (original): The gaming device of Claim 1, wherein the set of first playing symbols has a different number of playing symbols than said set of second playing symbols.

Claim 10 (original): The gaming device of Claim 9, wherein the set of first playing symbols has more playing symbols than said set of second playing symbols.

Claim 11 (original): The gaming device of Claim 9, wherein the set of first playing symbols has less playing symbols than said set of second playing symbols.

Claim 12 (original): The gaming device of Claim 1, wherein said finite pool of game outcomes is stored in a memory device of said gaming device.

Claim 13 (original): The gaming device of Claim 12, wherein said memory device is selected from the group consisting of a magnetic disk, a read only memory, a compact disk read only memory and a random access memory.

Claim 14 (original): The gaming device of Claim 1, which includes a payout schedule in said interactive game, wherein said first playing symbols correspond to a first winning symbol set in said payout schedule and symbols selected from said first and second playing symbols correspond to a second winning symbol set in said payout schedule, and wherein said second winning symbol set is associated with a higher payout in said payout schedule than the first winning symbol set.

Claim 15 (original): The gaming device of Claim 14, wherein the displayed playing symbols which correspond to the predetermined game outcome are the symbols of said second winning symbol set.

Claim 16 (original): The gaming device of Claim 14, wherein the first and second winning symbol sets correspond to respective poker hands.

Claim 17 (original): The gaming device of Claim 14, wherein the first and second winning symbol sets correspond to respective sets of reel symbols.

Claim 18 (original): A gaming device comprising:

an interactive game, wherein for each play of said interactive game, a predetermined game outcome which is either a winning game outcome or a losing game outcome is obtained from a finite pool of game outcomes;

a plurality of playing symbols in the interactive game, wherein for each interactive game, a set of first playing symbols is formed from a plurality of said symbols and a set of second playing symbols is formed from a plurality of said symbols, wherein each of said second playing symbols is associated with a respective one of said first playing symbols;

at least one predetermined designation associated with said first playing symbols;

a display device adapted to display the interactive game; and

a processor operable with said display device to control the play of the interactive game by:

(a) displaying the set of first playing symbols to a player;

(b) enabling the player to designate a subset of the displayed first playing symbols to replace;

(c) if the player's designation is consistent with the predetermined designation associated with said first playing symbols:

(i) displaying at least one of the first playing symbols, and

(ii) providing said predetermined game outcome to the player,

and

(d) if the player's designation is inconsistent with the predetermined designation associated with said first playing symbols:

(i) displaying a modification of the player's designated subset of the first playing symbols, wherein independent of the player's designation, said modification causes the displayed playing symbols to correspond to the predetermined game outcome, and

(ii) providing said predetermined game outcome to the player.

Claim 19 (original): The gaming device of Claim 18, wherein the displayed playing symbols which correspond to the predetermined game outcome include at least one of the first playing symbols.

Claim 20 (original): The gaming device of Claim 18, wherein said displayed modification includes a sequence of images indicative of alternative playing symbols.

Claim 21 (original): The gaming device of Claim 18, wherein said displayed modification includes a morphing display in which said one of the first symbols is transformed into the second symbol associated with said first symbol.

Claim 22 (original): The gaming device of Claim 18, wherein said displayed modification includes an animation sequence of images.

Claim 23 (original): The gaming device of Claim 18, wherein each of the first playing symbols represents a respective first playing card and each of the second playing symbols represents a respective second playing card.

Claim 24 (original): The gaming device of Claim 18, wherein each of the first playing symbols represents a respective first reel symbol and each of the second playing symbols represents a respective second reel symbol.

Claim 25 (original): The gaming device of Claim 18, wherein the subset of the displayed first symbols includes zero, one or a plurality of said first symbols to replace.

Claim 26 (original): The gaming device of Claim 18, wherein the set of first playing symbols has a different number of playing symbols than said set of second playing symbols.

Claim 27 (original): The gaming device of Claim 26, wherein the set of first playing symbols has more playing symbols than said set of second playing symbols.

Claim 28 (original): The gaming device of Claim 26, wherein the set of first playing symbols has less playing symbols than said set of second playing symbols.

Claim 29 (original): The gaming device of Claim 18, wherein said finite pool of game outcomes is stored in a memory device of said gaming device.

Claim 30 (original): The gaming device of Claim 29, wherein said memory device is selected from the group consisting of a magnetic disk, a read only memory, a compact disk read only memory and a random access memory.

Claim 31 (original): The gaming device of Claim 18, which includes a payout schedule in said interactive game, wherein said first playing symbols correspond to a first winning symbol set in said payout schedule and symbols selected from said first and second playing symbols correspond to a second winning symbol set in said payout schedule, and wherein said second winning symbol set is associated with a higher payout in said payout schedule than the first winning symbol set.

Claim 32 (original): The gaming device of Claim 31, wherein the displayed playing symbols which correspond to the predetermined game outcome are the symbols of said second winning symbol set.

Claim 33 (original): The gaming device of Claim 31, wherein the first and second winning symbol sets correspond to respective poker hands.

Claim 34 (original): The gaming device of Claim 31, wherein the first and second winning symbol sets correspond to respective sets of reel symbols.

Claim 35 (original): A gaming device comprising:

an interactive game, wherein for each play of said interactive game, a predetermined game outcome which is either a winning game outcome or a losing game outcome is obtained from a finite pool of game outcomes;

a plurality of playing symbols in the interactive game, wherein for each interactive game, a set of first playing symbols is formed from a plurality of said symbols and a set of second playing symbols is formed from a plurality of said symbols, wherein each of said second playing symbols is associated with a respective one of said first playing symbols;

at least one predetermined designation associated with said first playing symbols;

a display device adapted to display the interactive game; and

a processor operable with said display device to control the play of the interactive game by:

(a) displaying the set of first playing symbols to a player;

(b) enabling the player to designate a subset of the displayed first playing symbols to replace;

(c) displaying a subset of the second playing symbols associated with the subset of the first playing symbols designated by the player to be replaced;

(d) if the player's designation is consistent with the predetermined designation associated with said first playing symbols:

(i) displaying at least one of the first playing symbols, and

(ii) providing said predetermined game outcome to the player,

and

(e) if the player's designation is inconsistent with the predetermined designation associated with said first playing symbols:

(i) displaying a modification of the player's designated subset of the first playing symbols, wherein independent of the player's designation, said modification causes the displayed playing symbols to correspond to the predetermined game outcome, and

(ii) providing said predetermined game outcome to the player.

Claim 36 (original): The gaming device of Claim 35, wherein the displayed playing symbols which correspond to the predetermined game outcome include at least one of the first playing symbols.

Claim 37 (original): The gaming device of Claim 35, wherein said displayed modification includes a sequence of images indicative of alternative playing symbols.

Claim 38 (original): The gaming device of Claim 35, wherein said displayed modification includes a morphing display in which said one of the first symbols is transformed into the second symbol associated with said first symbol.

Claim 39 (original): The gaming device of Claim 35, wherein said displayed modification includes an animation sequence of images.

Claim 40 (original): The gaming device of Claim 35, wherein each of the first playing symbols represents a respective first playing card and each of the second playing symbols represents a respective second playing card.

Claim 41 (original): The gaming device of Claim 35, wherein each of the first playing symbols represents a respective first reel symbol and each of the second playing symbols represents a respective second reel symbol.

Claim 42 (original): The gaming device of Claim 35, wherein the subset of the displayed first symbols includes zero, one or a plurality of said first symbols to replace.

Claim 43 (original): The gaming device of Claim 35, wherein the set of first playing symbols has a different number of playing symbols than said set of second playing symbols.

Claim 44 (original): The gaming device of Claim 43, wherein the set of first playing symbols has more playing symbols than said set of second playing symbols.

Claim 45 (original): The gaming device of Claim 43, wherein the set of first playing symbols has less playing symbols than said set of second playing symbols.

Claim 46 (original): The gaming device of Claim 35, wherein said finite pool of game outcomes is stored in a memory device of said gaming device.

Claim 47 (original): The gaming device of Claim 46, wherein said memory device is selected from the group consisting of a magnetic disk, a read only memory, a compact disk read only memory and a random access memory.

Claim 48 (original): The gaming device of Claim 35, which includes a payout schedule in said interactive game, wherein said first playing symbols correspond to a first winning symbol set in said payout schedule and symbols selected from said first and second playing symbols correspond to a second winning symbol set in said payout schedule, and wherein said second winning symbol set is associated with a higher payout in said payout schedule than the first winning symbol set.

Claim 49 (original): The gaming device of Claim 48, wherein the displayed playing symbols which correspond to the predetermined game outcome are the symbols of said second winning symbol set.

Claim 50 (original): The gaming device of Claim 48, wherein the first and second winning symbol sets correspond to respective poker hands.

Claim 51 (original): The gaming device of Claim 48, wherein the first and second winning symbol sets correspond to respective sets of reel symbols.

Claim 52 (original): A gaming device comprising:

an interactive game, wherein for each play of said interactive game, a predetermined game outcome which is either a winning game outcome or a losing game outcome is obtained from a finite pool of game outcomes;

a plurality of playing symbols in the interactive game, wherein for each interactive game, a set of first playing symbols is formed from a plurality of said symbols and a set of second playing symbols is formed from a plurality of said symbols, wherein each of said second playing symbols is associated with a respective one of said first playing symbols;

at least one predetermined designation associated with said first playing symbols;

a display device adapted to display the interactive game; and

a processor operable with said display device to control the play of the interactive game by:

(a) displaying the set of first playing symbols to a player;

(b) enabling the player to designate a subset of the displayed first playing symbols to replace;

(c) display a subset of the second playing symbols associated with the subset of the first playing symbols designated by the player to be replaced;

(d) if the player's designation is consistent with the predetermined designation associated with said first playing symbols:

(i) displaying the second playing symbol associated with at least one of the first playing symbols, and

(ii) providing said predetermined game outcome to the player, and

(e) if the player's designation is inconsistent with the predetermined designation associated with said first playing symbols:

(i) displaying a modification of the player's designated subset of the first playing symbols, wherein independent of the player's designation, said modification causes the displayed playing symbols to correspond to the predetermined game outcome, and

- (ii) providing said predetermined game outcome to the player.

Claim 53 (original): The gaming device of Claim 52, wherein the displayed playing symbols which correspond to the predetermined game outcome includes the second playing symbol associated with at least one of the first playing symbols.

Claim 54 (original): The gaming device of Claim 52, wherein said displayed modification includes a sequence of images indicative of alternative playing symbols.

Claim 55 (original): The gaming device of Claim 52, wherein said displayed modification includes a morphing display in which said one of the first symbols is transformed into the second symbol associated with said first symbol.

Claim 56 (original): The gaming device of Claim 52, wherein said displayed modification includes an animation sequence of images.

Claim 57 (original): The gaming device of Claim 52, wherein each of the first playing symbols represents a respective first playing card and each of the second playing symbols represents a respective second playing card.

Claim 58 (original): The gaming device of Claim 52, wherein each of the first playing symbols represents a respective first reel symbol and each of the second playing symbols represents a respective second reel symbol.

Claim 59 (original): The gaming device of Claim 52, wherein the subset of the displayed first symbols includes zero, one or a plurality of said first symbols to replace.

Claim 60 (original): The gaming device of Claim 52, wherein the set of first playing symbols has a different number of playing symbols than said set of second playing symbols.

Claim 61 (original): The gaming device of Claim 60, wherein the set of first playing symbols has more playing symbols than said set of second playing symbols.

Claim 62 (original): The gaming device of Claim 60, wherein the set of first playing symbols has less playing symbols than said set of second playing symbols.

Claim 63 (original): The gaming device of Claim 52, wherein said finite pool of game outcomes is stored in a memory device of said gaming device.

Claim 64 (original): The gaming device of Claim 63, wherein said memory device is selected from the group consisting of a magnetic disk, a read only memory, a compact disk read only memory and a random access memory.

Claim 65 (original): The gaming device of Claim 52, which includes a payout schedule in said interactive game, wherein said first playing symbols correspond to a first winning symbol set in said payout schedule and symbols selected from said first and second playing symbols correspond to a second winning symbol set in said payout schedule, and wherein said second winning symbol set is associated with a higher payout in said payout schedule than the first winning symbol set.

Claim 66 (original): The gaming device of Claim 65, wherein the displayed playing symbols which correspond to the predetermined game outcome are the symbols of said second winning symbol set.

Claim 67 (original): The gaming device of Claim 65, wherein the first and second winning symbol sets correspond to respective poker hands.

Claim 68 (original): The gaming device of Claim 65, wherein the first and second winning symbol sets correspond to respective sets of reel symbols.